



# Hampton Roads Base

## United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



*"To Perpetuate the Memory of our Shipmates, who gave their lives  
in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country."*

## USS Flying Fish SSN 673 Hall of Fame Boat 2026

17 January 2026

Base Commander - Gary Galles, Present  
Base Senior Vice Commander - Adam Kingsley, Present  
Base Junior Vice Commander - Ron O'Donnell, Present  
Secretary – Anthony Ficca, Present  
Treasurer - John "Sid" Sidlovsky, Present

Members present 53    Guests present 7

### Regular Base Meeting Minutes for January 17,2026

**The meeting was called to Order by the Base Commander, Gary Galles 11:15 hours and the normal meeting opening sequence was followed:**

- A moment of silence for our departed brother and sister submariners was observed.
- Banner for eternal patrol posted for James Beauchamp 12/19/2025
- The invocation was led by Chaplain Wells
- The USSVI Creed was read by the Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Base Commander, Gary Galles
- The Tolling of the Boats Ceremony was read by Base Junior Vice Commander Ron O'Donnell, and the bell was rung by Senior Vice Commander Adam Kingsley
- A round robin of introductions, led by Acting Base Chief of the Boat, Craig Dudley , was then held with all members present identifying themselves with their qualification boats along with introducing any guest they brought to the meeting.

**Welcome any Visitors.**

**"Any visiting National, Regional, District Representatives, or Members of other Bases (please stand and be recognized)."-Base Commander Gary Galles.**

District Commander ES-1 Mike Sears

**“Any leadership from other veteran’s organization (Please stand and be recognized)”**

Byron Pianalto 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander American Legion Post 327

Rick Severinghaus Naval Submarine League

**Any new members - Please stand and be recognized.**

New Base Members: Torn Turner

Erwin Malicsi

Aaron Mack

**Binnacle List – Base Chaplain Scott Wells 757-912-7395**

John Fenter

Bill & Lisa Rearick (mother in law)

Harley Dockens

Tamara Kellgren

Paul Hanes

Ken Lemine

**Secretary’s Report – Base Secretary, Tony Ficca.**

- Reminder to all to keep the base informed of changes in contact information IE Email. Phone address etc.
- Base business cards are available to use in recruiting these business card include QR Codes that will lead people to our base webpage and the information about our meeting location
- Please remember to review your online profile at the national website to ensure your membership information is correct especially your Qualification date information for Holland Club inductions and for longevity of membership the site is <https://ussubvets.org/home.asp> If you find information that is incorrect or missing please send the needed changes to Myself or Sid
- A reminder to use the standard email addresses for base leadership

BaseCommander@hrb-ussvi.org
SeniorVice@hrb-ussvi.org
JuniorVice@hrb-ussvi.org
Secretary@hrb-ussvi.org
Treasurer@hrb-ussvi.org

### **Treasurer's Report – Base Treasurer- John “Sid” Sidlovsky**

- 2026 National and HRB dues are now past due for Annual Members. Please pay ASAP as to not risk your longevity if purged by National.  
You can make Dues Payments by Zelle. Use email [Treasurer@hrb-ussvi.org](mailto:Treasurer@hrb-ussvi.org)
- Consider donating or renewing your Base Sponsorship for 2026.
- 2026 Life Dues Installment Program starts next month. Make 10 easy payments so you can become a USSVI National & HRB Life Member in Nov.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Membership Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley**

- We have 296 Base Members as of today.
- Badges Gary Merryman [gary2361@yahoo.com](mailto:gary2361@yahoo.com)
- Active-Duty Membership is free for the first year
- USSVI Longevity Pins

#### **Scholarship Committee - Base Senior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley**

#### **Programs & Events Committee - Base Junior Vice Commander, Ron O'Donnell**

We will once again participate in the Norfolk St Patrick's Day parade March 14<sup>th</sup> 2026 more info will be put out after the new year.

We are looking into planning a lunch cruise in August more info in the coming months

Honor Flight info shared for both attendees and Guardian volunteers

#### **Ways and Means Committee - Base Junior Vice Commander, Ron O'Donnell**

**Storekeepers Report** - Base Storekeeper John Fenter no report on the binnacle list

**Public Relations and Publicity Committee – Ron O'Donnell**

**Newsletter Committee:** – Newsletter Editor, Anthony Ficca

Nothing to report at this time.

#### **Holland Club Committee - Chairman, Bill Heron**

Our 2026 Holland Club Induction will be held during our 18 April regular Base Monthly Meeting. If my roster is up to date we have 10 members that qualified in 1976. I will be contacting those members in February to obtain biographies and to determine if they will be able to attend. Attendees will receive their Holland Club, hat, national certificate, base Commanders certificate, their Holland Club patch, ID Card and challenge coin. Those who do not attend will receive everything except their hat in the mail.

**SCORPION Memorial Committee** – Chairman, Bill Heron

The Scorpion Memorial will be held Sunday 24 May at the Knights Of Columbus, 12742 Nettles Drive, Newport News, VA 23606. Same format as last year.

**Website and social media** – Base Webmaster, Sam Stevens

Our Base Webpage <https://www.hrb-ussvi.org/>

Our Base Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/325304167605241/>

We Now Have a presence on X formerly known as twitter link is on the main base webpage

**Kaps (SS) Kids Committee** – Chairman, John “Sid” Sidlovsky report will be given by Beverly Galles

- 12 people visited on 12/23
- Next Kaps(SS) for Kids visit will be on Tuesday 1/20/26 at 10:00 hrs
- I have taken over as the National Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) Chairman & USSVCF Fund Manager from John Riley that held that position for 16 years.
  - Beverly Galles is my Backup Chairman & USSVCF Fund Manager, the first Associate Member to have a National Position in both organizations.

**Hampton Roads (ERF) Committee** – Chairman, Jack Ritz No requests to report this month

**Event Coordinator** – Beverly Galles

**USSVI 2028 Convention Committee** - Chairman, Dave Duffie’

- We Have been awarded the National USSVI Convention for 2028
- We received our first corporate sponsorship 5000 from VFW post 392
- Looking for volunteers to help with Getting Various Clubs who have gambling to donate a portion of their profits to our Convention.

**Hall of Fame /World War II Committee** – Chairman, Ken Swan will not be present today

Planning has begun for 2026 WWII Memorial and HOF program with USS Flying Fish being the HOF Boat.

I spoke with the SLF XO (LCDR Martin) today and he will be sending out an email with the SLF POC later this week. I will forward when I get it and work to set up a planning meeting at SLF. I told him that the date for the ceremony as the first order of business. More to follow when known. He told me that the CO Change of Command will be in June of this year and that his relief will be in April. He said that the CO was supportive of the WWII Ceremony and HOF program. He knows of the connection with VADM G and Flying Fish.

More to follow once we get SLF primary POC.

Tony Ficca is collecting memorabilia for the shadow box.

### **Today's Program**

Swearing in of the Elected Officers for 2026-2027 Term

The District Commander, Mike Sears will offer the oath of office.

### **OLD Business:**

Adam Kingsley is heading up a review and update of our base bylaws and will discuss and outline the upcoming process including an open comment period for general membership to input their concerns and comments over the next 60 days at which time the bylaw committee will make the updates and submit the final version for adoption by base membership vote

**You can view the current base bylaws on line at:** <https://www.hrb-ussvi.org/ussvi>

### **New Business:**

New e board nominees to be part of the EBoard

Gary Carter

Ken Swan

Gene Destefano

Nominated and voted on and approved unanimously by membership

### **Good of the Order:**

Bill Sauer will discuss helping Paul Hanes with his truck issues

Dave Duffie noted how the subforce is strong with new tech and outstanding sailors

### **Review of Boats lost in this month: Junior Vice Commander Ron O'Donnell**

#### **Tolling of the Boats for January**

USS Scorpion (SS-278)

USS Argonaut (SS-166)

USS Swordfish (SS-193)

USS S-36 (SS-141)

USS S-26 (SS-131)

### **Birthdays For The Month - Base Commander, Gary Galles**

Rock 50/50 – Beverly Galles      Winner    Brian Daughtery      \$      140      base \$ 112

Booze Raffle– Beverly Galles      winner      Dave Hinkle woodford reserve      base \$ 106

Next Meeting - Base Commander, Gary Galles

Our next Regular Base meeting will be February 21, 2026 11:15

We will keep you posted if events change.

Meeting Adjourned \_\_\_\_ 12:19 \_\_\_\_.

Submitted by

Anthony Ficca Base Secretary

Approved by

Gary Galles Base Commander